

# The John Carroll Review

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Volume 71 | Issue 3

Article 13

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June 2018

## Noise

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### Recommended Citation

Peartree, Shannon (2018) "Noise," *The John Carroll Review*: Vol. 71 : Iss. 3 , Article 13.

Available at: <https://collected.jcu.edu/jcr/vol71/iss3/13>

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## Noise

By: Shannon Peartree

Aunt Terese could not believe  
When we told her Mom used to yell and  
That her sweet big sister's voice  
Could boom and shake the room  
Like a firework, bright and frightening,  
Sending my siblings running,  
Hoping a punishment wouldn't catch up.

We all knew the way Mom's laugh  
Might cut over the chatter of a party  
And rise and fill like a bubble  
Forcing against the halls and walls,  
Making a kid upstairs wonder  
What kind of fun she is missing out on.

The house took the strain of her noise  
But it almost couldn't bear the rising silence  
Or the weight of my father's words  
The first time he spoke aloud  
"Mom just died."